

If the District Board can meet this expenditure, the construction of the line may be taken on hand urgently, and you can have out of that a railway line and station as also engine, power and rolling stock.

Mr. C. Narasimhaia.—The District Board has levied the Railway-cess with this object in view and during the past four years, have been able to collect about 40 or 50 thousand rupees. Perhaps the work takes about a year and within that we will have collected another 10 or 12 thousand rupees.

Second Member of Council.—It requires two years.

All Members from Chamrajnagar and Nanjangud Taluks.—We are agreeable, Sir, and thankful to Government.

SUBJECT No. 165.

Improving the supply of water to Karigala tank and the irrigation under it.

Mr. M. Subba Rao, Heggad, devankote Taluk.

Mr. M. Subba Rao.—From the frontier up to our taluk, that is for a length of about 70 miles, the Kapila flows and passes right through the middle of the taluk, and Nanjangud Taluk only is benefited. In our own taluk, not a pie's worth of land is under wet cultivation under this river. We wanted an *anicut* at Bidara-halli and it took 10 or 15 years for the proposal to come up before the Assembly for discussion. Estimates and projects were ready, but in the end, the department complained of want of funds. Then we wanted an *anicut* across the Bhrugu river which flows within a distance of 20 miles from our taluk. Repairs have not been properly effected to the Lakshmanapur *anicut* which has breached. But all these are benefiting only the Nanjangud Taluk. Our taluk has no benefits conferred on it, though a very important taluk, there being about 1,000 or 1,500 acres of wet land and the rest dry. All these belong to the Hanagode series which are 100 miles or over in length. Our taluk is just on the roadside and though the population of the taluk itself is not much, yet many from outside come and reside in it. When the Karigala tank breached, that is, in the year 1898-99, repairs and improvements were ordered to be effected and a sum of about Rs. 50,000 was also sanctioned. We had reason to believe, then, that sluices would be repaired, *nalas* would be improved, and so on, and never withheld payment of the last pie of the assessment due from us. The Hanagode series gets water only towards the end of August or even the beginning of September though the sluice is opened in June, as it is only when all other tanks are filled that the Karigala tank gets water. And in December, the supply of water closes so that, in fact, we get the supply for only four months. The result is that cultivation is little helped and the raiyats turn their attention from wet cultivation to gingelly, jola, ragi, etc. We, therefore, earnestly pray to Government that

satisfactory arrangements may be made, so that we may have actual supply from June or July for six clear months. I also submit, Sir, that the North and South channels of this tank are not properly graded, there being only half a yard water head in some places and 5 to 10 yards in others. The supply of water along the channel is thus rendered very defective and it takes three or four days for water to reach the end after the sluice is opened. And yet, the same rates of assessment are levied throughout the length of the channel. This may, therefore, be treated as a grading channel and proper length and width given to it. The sluice also must be repaired.

There were, formerly, sluices to Uddur and Hanumanthapur *nalas* by means of which water readily flowed into the Karigala tank. It was because these sluices have been closed that water does not flow into the tank in good time for sowing. These sluices may, again be opened and this trouble put an end to. There are five regulators of which three are for the Hunsur Taluk and only two go to our taluk and only serve as a pretext for regular collection of assessment and nothing more. At the tail end of this channel, there is a *megalve*, (upper feeder channel), and under that there is enough dry land. We have about 600 acres of land there. But there is little use till all our requests are granted and it is ordered that no fresh additions should be made to the *atchkat* of this tank.

Mr. C. Narasimhaiya.—Sir, while on this subject, may we also refer to the fact that though in the year 1915, a sum of Rs. 65,000 was sanctioned for the construction of the Lakshmanapur Katte, yet, last August, the Chief Engineer seems to have gone there and reduced the estimate by about 40,000, saying that 150 feet of length would be enough. The raiyats are very much affraid on this account and very sorry. To get sanctioned a single estimate of this sort, we have to trouble both Government and ourselves for 10 or 20 years and such being the case, if the Chief Engineer reduces a sanctioned estimate what can poor raiyats do? The main consideration which seems to have actuated this action on the part of the Chief Engineer, seems to have been that the place is malarial, but why should the raiyats have paid assessment for 10 or 20 years for nothing at all? We know that there is financial stringency, but you must be pleased to order, Sir, that every year some portion of the programme must be worked out. No great benefit has been conferred, so far, on our taluk and it is enough if concessions that have been granted, are fully worked out.

Chief Engineer.—The sanctioned estimate was ordered to be reduced only when, from the engineering

point of view, it was considered that the estimated provision was too high.

Mr. C. Narasimhaiya.—May we know what those engineering point of view are, Sir? Is it that 150 feet of water would do or that the *katte* would not stand if this was more, or what? Is not the raiyats' convenience to be considered paramount? If there are any difficulties from the engineering point of view, take eight years instead of four years and we shall wait; we will then pray for more and try our luck if the present allotment is not sufficient. But what are we to do if sanctioned grants are withdrawn.

Chief Engineer.—We will investigate the scheme before the Birthday Session.

Mr. C. Narasimhaiya.—Investigation is always done Sir; but that by itself is not what we want. You have sanctioned Rs. 65,000 and this has been published in the *Gazette*; out of this amount about Rs. 45,000 has been sanctioned now. How could this be?

First Member of Council and Dewan.—The several requests have been noted for consideration. A special officer will be deputed to examine the whole question of water-supply to the Karigala tank and allied matters. Needful action will be arranged in regard to the grading of the North and South channels of the tank as may be deemed necessary after enquiry. Details may be considered later on. In regard to fresh additions to the *atchkat* that are being made constantly as alleged, the district officers may be approached for relief in the first instance.

SUBJECT No. 166.

An *anicut* across the Tharaka.

Mr. M. Subba Rao, Heggaddevankote Taluk

Mr. M. Subba Rao.—An *anicut* may be constructed across the river Tharaka, near Punjahalli. If a twelve mile long *nala* is thence drawn, much dry land will become wet for a length of about 8 or 9 miles and the town of Heggaddevankote, too, might have good drinking water. This scheme had once been referred to the Public Works Department. If this is not sanctioned, the difficulties of Heggaddevankote in summer are impossible to describe. Though the Executive Engineer had come once and investigated the proposed *anicut* at Bendahalli, it was not actually taken on hand. The silt in the Simhasamudra river also requires to be removed. As it is, we must dig out the sand whenever we want water and however bad this may be, we must use it. The result is that the population in that area is unhealthy generally. Sanitation is also in a hopeless condition. There was a population of 58,000 in 1911 and now there are about 53,000 only and the average yearly decline in population works out to 500. The taluk, in short, is about the worst in the whole district and therefore requires special consideration.